3 males and 3 females from Azakheel had been identified by the coordinators, to be sent to RBTU for CV training shortly.

OBSERVATIONS:

The families in this camp had good opportunities for supplementary income through business in Peshawar. Donor funding has come by easily to these camps in and around Peshawar and this has made the refugees increasingly passive and dependent. The tendency at Azakheel was to wait for outside support and initiatives to meet the identified needs of the camp rather than find internal solutions and resources to meet the same. The dependency syndrome was strong here due to "overfunding" by donors. In these circumstances motivation for community participation, self support and self reliance projects have received low priority from the population.

Men tended to exagetate the poverty and helplessness of their wives hoping to attract further donor attention.

A large number of income genertion activities had been started for women, initiated by the female coordinator. These were in the nature of skills development activities with all materal, remuneration and incentives for participation provided by the donors concerned. There was little room for sustainability of these ventures without donor support. Supply of raw-materials, marketting and supervision was done by the NGO concerned. These embroidery groups could have been used effectively to spread other awareness programmes such as community health, MCH or even adult literacy. The male and female DCs at present have little practical training in community development and thereby lacked the know-how to build on the potential of these groups.

The coordinators seemed to have little interaction or integration within their work. The relations between the male SWCom and the DC were formal and top down. He steered the committee on what to discuss in our presence. The SWCom was controled by rich and influential men in the camp. The DC reinforced the existing power structure instead of attempting to change it.

CHAKDARA CAMP - DIR DISTRICT

BACKGROUND:

This camp established in 1979 has about 1 200 registered and 600 unregistered families at present. The total population is estimated to be around 20 000 persons of which 50% are children. Of the population over 15 years approx. 70% are women. Most of the refuges are from the Konar Province of Afghanistan and Pashtu speaking. They are now integrated into the local economy and manage a large proportion of the business in the area, besides crossing over to tend their farms within Afghanistan. A lucrative smuggling business across the border to Afganistan serves as an additional source

of family income. The refugees did not wish to be repatriated to Afganistan until peace was restored, an Islamic Government set up and economic stability returned. In this atmosphere of shifting populations, introducing community self-help projects was difficult. The peoples lacked interest and initiative to improve their social conditions within the camp without the promise of payment or incentives. Even covering up stagnant pools of water and building latrines would not be undertaken without payment.

ACTIVITIES:

The male District Coordinator (DC) received RBTU training in 1988 and has been posted in Dir since then. There has been upto now no female DC in Dir.

The male DC had initiated a child support group with 12 disabled children (7 girls & 5 boys) and an awareness programmes to motivate 25 females under 2 trained female CVs in 1992. Close monitoring by the DC and the incentive of Rs. 300:- paid by RBTU for the first six months to each of the CVs seemed to be the reason for sustenance of the programme. The activities terminated after 8 months since the CVs lost interest when the payment was withdrawn. Today all the above activities have been terminated and there are no female CVs functioning. Some disabled childrens groups under male CVs are still functioning, though sustaining this activity with the present workload within the camp is becoming increasingly difficult for the CVs. The DC had been absent from his post over the last year - having served as a UNV in Cambodia. Activities seemed to have been laid down during his absence.

Active attempts are being made to revive activities. A male SWCom with 5 members has been set up to liase with the 'jirga' in introducing community work within the camp. They identify vulnerable groups, assess needs and address their minds to womens' social problems on an inter tribal basis.

An integrated approach towards interlinking i.g. projects such as soap making with cleanliness and preventive health care programmes is being introduced. Further, the scope of child disability is to be extended to cover physical, mental and social disabilities i.e. exploited child labour from female headed households. The DC is developing his own methodology from his personal experiences. RBTU training has helped him in his ground work but since it was limited to class room techniques and the rights of the child the scope of adapting the RBTU lessons to the varied needs in the field were considered to be limited.

It was also felt that the present RBTU trainers lacked the capacity and experience of realities within the camp to meet this new demand and act as discussion partners in follow-up training programmes and also conduct additional training.

Four Primary and two Secondary schools for boys are functioning in this camp. A primary school for girls with 130 students and 3 teachers and a middle school with 85 students and 8 teachers funded by CAR Education Cell has been functioning over the past 7 years. A second Primary school for girls has recently been opened to cater to rising demands for female education within the camp. All students are provided with books and clothes by CAR. The number of female primary students is on the increase but limited facilities prevented further intake. The present facilities for the girls were poor; classes are held under tents compared to the boys schools that had permanent buildings and furniture.

OBSERVATIONS:

Programme activities initiated by the CVs have been sustained so long as there existed close monitoring. The female CVs need constant moral support and attention from the DC to sustain their activities, specially since they were not receiving any remuneration for community services.

Programmes which do not distribute medicines, carry incentives, welfare and relief measures receive little support from the refugees. CVs who work without payment are the targets of redicule and suspicion. Female CVs are specially vulnerable in this situation. Their motive for working without pay is construed to mean that they received concealed benefits.

In older camps and among refugees exposed to a more "open" female society outside the boundaries of the camp there appears to be an interest among parents to educate both boys and girls at least upto the primary level. Cultural constraints and economic factors compell the girls to accept marriage and the boys to enter the informal sector as cheap labour. However since recently girls are being privately tutored at home after the primary level. Some families at Chakdara spent upto Rs. 700 per month on tuition for girls. The refugees stated that the present economic,social and political conditions within Afganistan were not condusive for their return.

GANDAF CAMP – MARDAN

BACKGROUND:

This camp was situated in an area known for poppy cultivation in Pakistan. A lucrative narcotics business controlled by drug barons thrived in the area upto some 4 years back. This was the primary means of livelihood for the refugees in Gandaf. Now an industrial estate has been set up on the poppy lands to provide alternative employment. Despite these measures consumption of drugs among men, women and youth has yet to be eradicated. Narcotics used range from mild sedatives and strong tobacco to heroin.

This camp set up in 1979 has about 800 registered and 100 unregistered families with 8 800 individuals coming from Konar, Kunduz and Logar Provinces of Afganistan. Social services within the camp include 1 BHU maintained by ARC, a physiotherapy centre run by SGAA, 4 boys primary and 2 girls primary schools run by CAR, 2 boys middle schools, sanitation and hand pumps.
A Women's SWCom of elders and influentials formally acknowledged all projects implemented for women. A similar SWCom existed also for the mens' projects to motivate, supervise and obtain general acceptance for projects to be implemented. The members had initiated community activities (social and cultural) in the camp even before the SWCOm came into being.

ACTIVITIES:

A campaign against drug abuse conducted by UNDCP has been started in the camp from 6 months back. 25 female volonteers have been trained as UNDCP community workers. Awareness campaigns actively engage a further 85 women from 15 - 55 years. A sewing centre with about 45 girls under a teacher and financed by ARC sews clothes for mothers and new borns at the BHU. Every year 10 girls receive a sewing machine as gift when they passed out. Female literacy classes for 15 students financed by BEFARE (Germany) has started 2 years back. Urdu reading and writing are taught daily for 2 hours by a qualified female teacher. RBTU training on the rights of the child and care of the disabled was held in April for 3 days. Four women and five men received training at camp level. The women, had disabled children of their own, and have started primarily with the care of their own families.

14 male CVs from Gandaf have received RBTU training since 1990. The CVs are working independently with inneciative. Child to child programmes and Islamia Khetmadgar for boys was started already in 1985 under the name of Sarandui. Today there are 40 boys in 4 groups each under a leader. The two programmes are organised together so that the IK is a scout group and the child to child a cub group to the scouts.

OBSERVATIONS:

Womens cooperation within the UNDCP training, sewing centre and education projects has been active due to the incentives offered to the participants by the various Donors. Under RBTU programmes only the mothers who have disabled members within their families have been motivated enough to sustain the programme. After RBTU training the women have begun to appreciate that rights of the child include even female children. The concept and relevance of child groups had however not been understood. No child groups had started yet. The RBTU training could have been linked with the SGAA physiothorophy centre at the BHU in order to gain a better outreach and sustainablity.

Under the child to child programme children were motivated to go to school in the morning at least: they usually worked during the rest of the day earning money for family subsistence. Working for family subsistance is not seen as child labour or exploitation of children by the parents under the local traditions.

Interlinking of community activities, eg BHU with sewing centre, have been facilitated where the same source funds both activities, namely ARC.

Health and nutrition standards have improved and infant mortality rates are low in this camp. There is awareness within families of preventive health care and mothers and children were immunised. Contraception usage is prevelent as a means to space children in a few families. The men in these families are usually workers at the BHU or teachers. Active BHU and Community Health Workers monitor and sustain this programme within the camp.

Proximity of the camp to urban areas in Mardan made men more tolerant towards female adult literacy. The men requested that a secondary school for girls be opened in Gandaf.

Camp women were aware of the menace of drug abuse for themselves and their families. Poverty, depression, need to escape from memories and family tragedies were common reasons for women partaking of drugs.

The female SWCom was merely an important "decorative" body. Projects were planned and decisions were taken by active younger members of the camp. Even the male SWCom was mainly a figurative body. The CVs took innitiatives and made decisions indepent of the male SWCom.

There are no female CVs. Activities are monitored by the female DC with the assistance of resource persons from the camp, working informally.

The male DC has no formal training in community organisation except for some previous IK like training within the Enzebati Islami. The female DC has received RBTU training in 1992 and works with initiative. Exchange of experiences and working cooperation between the male and female district coordinators was not visible.

The male DCs written proposal for IK training sent to RBTU one year ago has not yet been met. As a result the number of children within IK has fallen from 60 to 25. The male CVs (trained by UNDCP and RBTU) wanted training in how to come to terms with the dependency syndrome which was the biggest problem for them within this camp. This was one of the rare occasions when CVs could formulate their training needs which fell outside the normal available training.

BAGHICHA CAMP - MARDAN.

BACKGROUND:

This camp set up in 1981 has 800 families and about 5 000 refugees originating from Nangarhar, Konar, Baghlan, Laghman and Kabul Provinces. There has been hardly any repatriation from this camp.

ACTIVITIES:

4 boys and 1 girls primary, 1 boys secondary school. One BHU.

A male child group leader was trained by RBTU in 1991 and has a child group with 13 disabled boys and girls. Common disablities include epilepsy, polio, mental retardation, mongloid and physical handicapps. The group has been functional for two years. Some older children have been integrated into the camp school whilst 6 disabled boys follow skills training under the SOS PG programme. There are no trained female CVs or group leaders. Monitoring of female activities is done by untrained resource persons within the camp together with the female district coordinator. Activities are coordinated under an informal women's camp commitee.

Child to child activities exist in the boys and the girls schools. About 40 boys and 20 girls are involved in spreading health awareness messages among children who are not attending school. Each child educates 5 others monthly. The programme is supervised by the teachers and records are maintained by each child.

Income Generation projects in embroidery are implemented by Ockenden Venture and DACAAR. About 400 women sewed for these NGOs.

OBSERVATIONS:

Parental motivation is absent within the child group programme. The group leader has to collect the children himself in the morning, no contributions from parents are forthcoming for the upkeep of this project. Sustainability is ensured as long as the leader of the group is active, motivated and willing to work volontarily without pay.

Children involved in the child to child activities are sometimes coerced by use of the whip by the teachers to sustain this activity. The validity of implementing a programme on this basis is questionable. Perhaps a refocus of RBTU training to address this cultural problem is advisable.

The income generation activities are dependant on donor support for their existance since the women are only "workers" within this programme.

A high degree of superstition among women, irregular and wrong food intake keeps nutrition levels among women and children low in this camp.

BUSHERA CAMP - KURRAM DISTRICT

BACKGROUND:

This camp set up in 1980 originally had a population of about 1 800 families. Repatriation has reduced the number of families to 1 500 with approx 14 000 persons. About 40% of the population was below 15 years of age.
The camp was made up of 3 tribes and the people were from Paktia, Ningahar and Kabul Provinces. The refugees were engaged in small trade and business in Parachinar town importing fruits and vegetables from across the border. Bushera Camp was situated in the tribal areas and the local Maliks exerted a strong controle over the refugee population. The camp committee was made up of 20 Maliks who decided over food and security arrangements for the refugees.

ACTIVITIES:

The camp had a male SWCom with 7 members (4 teachers, 1 Mullah, 2 students)appointed by the present DC. The SWCom was active in promoting inte tribal community activities. A Middle School for boys (classes 1-8) with 8 teachers was started in 1980 and is financed by CAR. The teachers were motivated and worked volutarily with classes 9-10 after school hours, on self-help basis. There were 367 students of which 29 were in the high school.
Two male CVs had been trained by RBTU in 1991 but they have now shifted to another camp. IK activities innitiated by them continues with 25 boys in 5 groups. One child group with 6 children was also functioning. A request to train 2 CVs in child advocacy and further IK training is pending with RBTU since 1992.

Activities for girls included a CAR primary school started in 1986 with 3 teachers and 81 girls between the ages of 5 and 12 years. A 6th class had been started on self-help basis voluntarily by the teachers. One of the teachers was a CV, trained by RBTU in 1992. The first IK group for girls had been started in 1992 by the trained CV with 8 students from the 4th and 5th classes. They went from house to house and talked to mothers and children about preventive health care, sanitation and safe drinking water. Child to child activities with games and health messages had just been introduced by the female DC among girls not attending the school.
In addition to this 20 women have received UNDCP training and a further 18 have been trained by SCF(UK) in community health and as TBAs.

A female SWCom with 10 members of mixed social standing (comprised of CVs, TBAs and wives of labourers) was formed in 1992. The SWCom received Basic Training from RBTU in the same

year. The women wanted more training to widen their knowledge on activities outside the camp and health education.

Kurram District has 1 male and 1 female DC. The female received 1 year RBTU training in 1990 and has been active in the district since 1991. She together with the 3 Animators working in Kurram (upto 1992) has ensured programme continuity. There have been 3 male DCs between 1991 and 1993. The present male was trained at RBTU in 1991 and started work in Kurram in 1992.

Three Animators were functioning in Kurram District upto April 1992. They have been of assistance to the DCs in identification and monitoring of project activities at camp level.

OBSERVATIONS:

Student attendance in the boys school showed a sharp drop-out rate after the 4th class, from 61 to 44 students. Children seemed to start work already at the age of 9 years to support their families! Parents appreciated that children needed education but they had simultaneously obligations towards their families that had to be met too.

A close parent teacher relationship existed in the girls school and the IK activities were encouraged by the mothers. The IK group was alert and vocal. Many of the girls had brothers in the boys IK.

Activities within the 33 camps (12 clusters) in Kurram have been sustained by the female CV together with the 4 Animators who have played an important role specially in the monitoring of mens activities and meeting training needs at camp level. The high turn-over of male DCs has not affected programme implementation thanks to the Animators!
All the 18 male SWComs, 7 female SWComs, 7 disabled childrens groups and 2 girls schools within Kurram District were mooted and motivated by the Animators.
It was first in Kurram that we met refugees who wanted to take initiatives themselves, using their own resources to meet identified needs within their camps.

The male DC and female DC have adopted different working strategies in conformity with the conservative cultural traditions of the tribal area. While the male DC liases with the jirga, male SWCom and holds himself to the hujra the female DC observes strict purdah and closely interacts with the women within the presincts of their home. This has gained her acceptance by the men and thereby ensured easy access to the women within the camps. Training programmes for women innitiated by her are appreciated by the men.
The male DC needs additional training on specific topics e.g. child to child. The male CVs and the SWCom needs training in community work and organisation. An appliaction for training sent to RBTU in 1992 is still pending. Both the male and female DCs need further training on monitoring techniques.

ANIMATORS:

Southern Animators -

The presence of trained Animators, working fulltime, has been a special feature of the camps in the Southern tribal areas. 10 males were trained as Animators by RBTU 1991-1992. Of these 7 have been active in the South. Whilst 4 were working in Kurram District, 2 worked in Miransha and 1 in Wana Districts. Each Animator was responsible for 3 camp clusters (administrative divisions). The Animators were Afghanis themselves and were residents of the camp. They assisted in identification of vulnerable groups, assessment of needs and monitoring of activities within the camp. They were also useful links between the DCs and the CVs/camp refugees. The ground work for the female activities in the Southern camps was facilitated by the presence of the animators. They have been of immense help specially to the female DC in Kurram (the only female in the tribal areas) particularly when there was no permernant male DC.

The work of the Animators has however stopped after April 1992. RBTU terminated its training and the payment of Rs. 1 100:- per month to the Animators and proposed instead that they start an NGO between themselves and generate self-support funds from within the camps. But the Animators lacked experience regarding logistics and capacity to do this and have been forced to seek other jobs (2) or work as unpaid CVs on part time basis (3)or stop working totally (2).

OBSERVATIONS:

Animators have made an immense contribution in the politically sensitive and conservative tribal areas. Sensitising male SWComs on specific female needs has been a feature of their work. Their absence is already slowing down project implementation and follow up of CVs in the South. Of the 70 male and 65 female CVs trained in Kurram only 35 are left active today after repatriation. Close interaction with the refugees cannot be maintained by the DCs alone due to their workload and also distances between camps. Today large scale repatriation from the Southern camps has necessitated merger of camps and programme reorientation at short notice: a task that DCs find hard to meet without the assistance of trained Animators.
DCs in the South specifically requested that RBTU contribute towards and reintroduce the system of Animators for Kurram, Miransha and Wana Districts.

Urban Animators -

In Peshawar 10 Urban Animators, 5 male and 5 female, are **undergoing a 1 year training since Dec 1992.** Judging from the activities of the Animators this programme is mobilising urban refugees at grass root level. A good proportion of the activities started are based on the expressed needs of the

communities. (For details refer Part 2 of evaluation page ...... by Joy Mahlasela). The Animators see themselves as facilitators of processes rather than initiators of self-help and self-reliance.

The community thouth CVs identified its problems and needs and these are conveyed to the camp committees. The Animator helps the community in formerlising needs and formulating proposals to relevant organisations. The so called "bottom-up" approach seems to be working here.

The initiation and implementation of this programme has been a close and coorporation between the triangle UNHCR/SSU, CAR/SWC and RBTU. Close follow-up and supervision in the field is maintained by the DCs with the SSO serving as a monitoring adviser. In the application of training RBTU keeps a close follow-up and supervisionb through 1 day weekly meetings with the Animators.

SATIN 2 CAMP - KURRAM DISTRICT

BACKGROUND:

This camp was started in 1980 with 2 500 families and about 18000 persons. Today there are about 1 500 families and 14 00 persons left after repatriation. The camp was made up of three tribes. The families were from Paktia, Paktika, Nangahar, Kabul Provinces. The men were engaged in the transport business and border security activities.

ACTIVITIES:

A Middle School for boys (upto 8th standard) funded by CAR has been functioning since 1981. There were about 400 students before the summer vacation in June but presently there are only 261. About 50% of the families have repatriated to Afganistan or moved into the urban areas for employment. IK activities were revived in 1992 under a trained CV with 12 boys and 4 leaders in the school. Their main tasks are to motivate children to attend school, identification of vulnerable groups and disabled children, dissiminating messages on health awareness, sanitation and drug abuse.

One male CV was trained by RBTU in 1991 for 5 days in community organisation, self-help, care of the disabled, health & sanitation. He received further training in IK in 1992. The CV works with motivation linking people to resources available within the camp e.g. BHU, NGO assistance, training programmes, i.g. activities for the disabled etc. His objective is to teach people to help themselves instead of begging for help from outside. Cross tribal community work is encouraged through the male SWCom comprising 6 members 2 from each tribe.

A female SWCom was formed with 8 women from one tribe in 1992.

INTRODUCTION

This study on a selected number of Afghan refugee camps in the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) is an extract from an extensive study undertaken for the Swedish Save The Children (Rädda Barnen) in November 1993. The study though confined to 11 refugee camps reflects the social, cultural, religious and political structures and gender disparities prevailing in the majority of camps of the Frontier Province.

The study also attempts to draw out salient factors influencing refugee lifestyles within the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and the "settled areas".

It is apparent that whatever the location of the camp it is the prevailing social attitudes, political and tribal constitution of the camp that determines the amount of manoeuvering room allowed to women within the camps. Their ability to participate in training programmes, community based activities and mobility within and outside the camps is controled by these institutions dominated by men. The members of these peer groups need to be gender sensitised so that they could better appreciate, acknowledge and recognise the contributions of the "silent female labour force" that ensures the perpetuity of life, families and clans within the camps.

1 female CV and all the SWCom members received RBTU Basic Training in August 1993. The female DC had trained four other women in child to child activities and four informal groups with 4 x 10 children are functioning since June. SCF(UK) and UNDCP had also trained 14 women in Health Education and community work.

A BHU supported by CAR was functioning with 2 LHWs and a male doctor.

OBSERVATIONS:

The IK group was strictly under the controle of the CV who commanded them rather than discussed community issues with the boys. He considered this an essential strategy after the recent repatriations and break-up of the group.

RBTU Basic Training has encouraged women to come together and discuss personal health and children's problems. Taking care of sick and disabled children on self-help basis, education of children and personal health problems are discussed openly within the tribe.

Women would like to meet and work with other tribes but the social conditions do not permit this. Dissimination of information and training experiences was possible only within the boundaries of the tribe. Women want more RBTU training on specific needs of children.

Since 1992 NPO has I.G. for men in 3 camps (goat rearing and plant nurseries) and a district level vocational training for 40 boys. Training here includes shoe making, carpentry and masonry, sewing and welding. The disabled were given preference under these projects. 3 disabled boys from Satin camp were under training. I.G. projects for women are rare in the whole district.

The situation within the camp is undergoing constant change with people repatriating all the time. All people who have resources to restart agricultural activities are moving back to Afghanistan.

SHASHOO CAMP - KURRAM

BACKGROUND:

This camp was set up in 1980 with 700 families and about 15000 persons. Today the camp has a population of 12 000 persons in 500-600 registered families. There were also about 1 200 unregistered persons. The refugees were from Paktia, Logar and Wardak Provinces of Afghanistan and belonged to 3 tribes. Occupationally they were farmers, presently engaged in small trade. Of the 100 families repatriated in 1992 about 30% have returned and are living outside the camp.

ACTIVITIES:

The first male SWCom was set up in 1989. With the oncome of every new male DC to the district the SWCom had been reconstituted. The present one set up in 1992 had 5 members: 1 Moulavi, 2 teachers & 2 health workers. It met weekly to discuss general problems of the camp.
A Middle School for boys with 351 students was functioning with CAR assistance. Activities within the school included IK with 17 students. A child group with 6 disabled children was also functioning under a RBTU trained male CV. On completion of schooling 6 students had joined GTZ project for carpentry and tailoring. A further 10 disabled students were with NPO attending tailoring, masonry and carpentry training.
3 male CVs had been trained by the DC and assisted him in identification.

The female SWCom set up in 1992 by the female DC consisted of 7 members. (Now 5 after repatriation). The SWCom met weekly. Womens and childrens problems were discussed together with health workers from the BHU. SWCom members went from house to house to identify health needs and referred disabled children for medical attention either to the BHU or NGOs.
There were also 4 female child to child CVs and 3 social workers: all had received basic training in 1992 and additional training in April 1993 from RBTU. Subjects included basic health and clenliness, sanitation, children's rights, good behaviour and playing habits, respect for the disabled etc. Three child to child leaders functioned one within each tribe. Each supervised 15-20 children from 5-15 years of age.

OBSERVATIONS:

The CVs and child group leader gave their services with no demands for insentives from CAR or RBTU. Refugees were motivated to work for the good of the comminity rather than for material gains. Absence of foreign NGOs seems to have strengthened peoples innitiatives to manage with limited resources.
The female leaders were supported by family members in their house work and this gave them more time with the child to child activities. The male and female leaders saw their work as a useful contribution in upbringing of children since the normal family structures have broken down when they live within the camp.
Parental motivation resulted in the parents bringing their children to the child group leader instead of waiting for him to collect the disabled daily.

Training had fostered communication and contact between women of various tribes. Elder women had better opportunities to work across tribes on childrens issues. Cultural norms restricted the mobility of younger women.

The SWCom enables women to meet, discuss and assess qualitatively the resources at their disposal within the camp. e.g. BHU, water scarcity, health care for family, widows without family support etc. Their decisions are conveyed to

the male SWCom for action.

Weddings and other social gatherings were used by the community workers to discuss issues centered on childrens rights and respect to the disabled.

Women were concerned about their large families and wanted child spacing measures. At present the LHWs at the BHUs referred the women to Peshawar. Men did not have the funds to take their wives to Peshawar for remedial measures.

QUTUB KHEL - MIRANSHAH DISTRICT

BACKGROUND:

This camp was started in 1979 and had more than 300 families of which about 120 are left today after repatriation of the Uzbeks. Families in the camp are Pashtu ,from Kunduz.

The camp had no social service facilities apart from food rations, no NGO assistance and the living conditions are very poor. The camp was situated in a remote area and job opportunities outside the camp were very limited. Most of the males were old or sick. There were a large number of young widows. The camp suffered from an acute shortage of water over the last 10 years!

Maliks had a strong influence over the camp population and it is only since 2 months back that families are collecting food rations personally without Maliks collecting on their behalf.(CAR directive). Motivation for community participation has been difficult for the DC in these circumstances.

ACTIVITIES:

Miransha District has only a male DC trained by RBTU in 1990 for one year. Female activities are monitored by the Mobile Team visiting the district from Peshawar.

The male SWCom hass 4 members (one from each tribe). They discuss and assess the problems of the vulnerable groups, social facilities and interpret community work within the framework of the Quran, so that refugees can comprehent it.

A female SWCom with 8 members had been functioning since 1990. The camp has no BHU so the Committee was instumental in collecting funds through the male SWCom and the mosque to refer females to private doctors in Miransha. Income generation activities were started on the women's own innitiative. 5 women were weaving kilims for the local market (heavily underpaid by the traders) and 4 widows had received IRC loans (Rs. 1600)for goat farming. 50 women had received RBTU Basic Training (clenliness and civic consciousness) in two batches for 3 days each year 91-93

The camp had no school the boys attended the mosque school only.

2 CVs had child to child activities with about 20 children.

OBSERVATIONS:

The level of poverty in the camp leaves small margin for unsuccessful projects. The IRC i.g. project has failed due to low motivation and the women find it difficult to repay the loan of Rs. 120 a month.

There was no hospital, vaccination or health facilities for the families close at hand. Health and nutritional levels were low. After RBTU training women and men are discussing this matter with the DC.

The talents of the women could be utilised by the RBTU to produce childrens toys and playthings for the disabled childrens groups within other camps. This could be a useful source of income specially for widows.

Miransha has 24 camps but only 9 BHUs.

RBTU has trained 35 CVs 90-93 but only 12 are left today after repatriation.

The 2 trained Animators within the district have also stopped working after RBTU terminated the training and payment to them in 1992. They are now employed privately with IRC and private business.

There was a lack of follow up of projects by the DC. He had little experience in projects assessment. This camp needed further RBTU training for CVs, the male SWCom and on repatriation issues.

DERPA KHEL CAMP - MIRANSHA

BACKGROUND:

This camp was set up in 1979 with 4 000 families now reduces to 2 500 after repatriation. Families are maimly from Paktia, Paktika and Khost provinces. Most of the refugees "live in" with the local population outside the camp.

ACTIVITIES:

A Middle School for boys (classes 1-8) with 296 (now 232) students and 8 teachers was started in 1980. This school now caters to the needs of 5 camps around Dherpa Khel. The rector of the boys school was an ex principal of a girls school in Khost. He was giving private classes for girls outside school hours since the Mullahs in the camp objected to organised education for girls.
There was also a boys Primary school with 180 students funded

by CAR.

2 male CVs trained by RBTU led the IK activities in the schools in 5 groups. The IK was reorganised in 1992 after repatriation reduced the student numbers.

A girls school started in 1982 was closed by CAR due to budgetory cuts in 1992 despite the regular attendance (300) and the availability of 2 female teachers. On parential request the school has been revived. Today 36 girls attend classes 1-3 in a separate group in the Boys Primary school. Inadequate facilities and the lack of female teachers prevents parents sending their daughters to school after 10 years of age.

Regular immunisation programmes are conducted in the schools by the BHU. For curative care children are referred to private doctors by the BHU due to shortage of medicines.

The mens SWCom started in 1992 by the DC was made up of 5 (now 4) members from all the tribal groups. Common camp problems, merits of female training, needs assessments of vulnerable groups are taken up by this SWCom. A self-help school with 120 (now 40) boys and 2 teachers has been started in May by the SWCom for 3 hours daily in the mosque. Stationery was provided by RBTU. Teachers work without remuneration.

20 women have received RBTU Basic Training in April for 3 days on subjects like child birth, pregnancies and cleanliness, MCH, nutritional feeding habits and education for children. Women have learned to manage for themselves and not depend on outside help. Some i.g. projects in sewing, carpet weaving, and goatery have been started by IRC, but the women are underpaid for their work. e.g. 4 women working 10 days on a woven cushion are together paid Rs. 250!

A further 30 women from another tribe have received RBTU training in 1992 on care of disabled children and children's rights.

A child group with 12 disabled children was started in '91 by 2 trained male CVs. One has repatriated and the group has only 5 children (2 girls & 3 boys) now. These children are referred for treatment under the PRC/UNHCR annual programme by the DC.

A Child Club started by the DC in 1991 served both as a sports group for the 25 youth invloved and also as a voluntary team to undertake self-help activities at camp level e.g. building bridges, filling water holes, promoting preventive health care etc. There are both Afghani and Pakistani boys within the club.

OBSERVATIONS:

The DC uses the Hadji's (religious leader) mother and sister as resource persons to highlight women's issues within the male SWCom. Suggestions for female training are first

introduced to the male SWCom by them for approval.

After the formation of the male SWCom inter tribal cooperation has strengthened. Men are asking for RBTU training in community organisation. The purdah system however does not permit joint womens training or interaction.

As a result of the training women are joining in group activities like sewing and weaving for the local market to meet family costs.

Higher motivation levels and limited resources from donors have encouraged self-help activities and facilitated women's training programmes in the camp.

Awareness about the needs of disabled children has increased among families. Better interaction between children and a humain treatment of the disabled has developed after RBTU training.

NARIDAG CAMP - MIRANSHA.

BACKGROUND:

This camp was established in 1981 with about 300 families. There only 50 families left today after the 1992 repatriation. The refugees belong to 2 tribes from Khost. The men are engaged in cross-border trading and agriculture within Afghanistan. Incomes are sufficient to meet family needs.

ACTIVITIES:

A male SWCom with 8 members is functioning since 1992 trained by the DC.

The Primary school and the BHU have been closed by CAR in 1992.

A self-help school for boys has started in April to meet some of the education needs. There were 70 students and 3 teachers. Stationery had been provided by RBTU and text books by CAR. Representations have been made to UNHCR for a tented roof for the school. The parents contributed Rs. 20 per month for each child to meet the teachers salary.

The male CV child group leader received RBTU training in 1990 & 91. A child group with 10 disabled (now 3) was formed. Parental motivation by the CV has contributed to increased awareness of the problems of disabled.

RBTU basic training has been given to 40 women for 3 days in April 1993. These women represent most of the families in the camp.

OBSERVATIONS:

After RBTU training the women have become conscious that
- they are collectively responsible for the camp school
- they should not redicule and abuse disabled children
- cleanliness and supervision of children at home is important
- the importance of drinking only boiled water.

However inadequate water remains a problem in this camp. Scabies and malaria are very common. The mobile BHU team provides regular vaccination visits.

There is no actual knowledge of the UN Convention but parents have begun to respect the rights of children through action programmes. Men and women wanted further parental training.

The refugees are motivated, in the absence of the dependency syndrome created by excessive donor assistance, to generate their own resources and initiate self-help ventures within the camp. The male SWCom see their trained women as motivaters and mooters of change for the nearby camps. There were no tribal restrictions on womens movement to nearby camps to dissiminate their training skills.

RBTU and DC training has contributed to inter tribal cooperation and flexibility to womens training. The male SWCom wanted training in adjustment to repatriation, community affairs and mediation skills.

ANNEX 1/A

LIST OF ACRONYMNS AND INITIAL

ARC	Austrian Relief Committee
BHU	Basic Health Unit
CAR/SWC	Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees/Social Welfare Cell
CV	Community Volunteer
DACAAR	Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees
DAP	Disabled Afghan Project
DC	District Coordinator
IG	Income Generation
IK	Islamic Khetmadgar
IRC	International Rescue Committee
LHW	Local Health Worker
MCH	Mother and Child Health
NGO	Non Goverment Organisation
NPO	Norweigan Project Office
NWFP	North West Frontier Province
PRC	Pakistan Red Cresent
RB	Rädda Barnen
RBT	Rädda Barnen Training Unit
SCF(UK)	Save the Child, United Kingdom
SGAA	Sandy Gall Afghan Association
SOP	Sub Office Peshawar of UNHCR
SSO	Social Services Unit of UNHCR/SOP
SSU	Social Service Unit of UNHCR/SOP

TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant
UNDCP	United Nations Drug Control Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

A SHORT GLOSSARY

Animators - Afghan refugees trained by RBTU as social workers and trainers

Bottom-up - Community organisation through the promotion of self-help activities based on the needs and resources identified by the community. Activities started, planned, organised and decisions made locally by members of the community. Also referred to as grass root community development.

Child Advocacy - promotion of the rights of the child

Child to Child Group - Activities about health and social issues disseminated by children to other children

Child Club - Youth clubs for older children, who promote social issue messages, sports and cultural activities

Child Support Groups - Voluntary associations composed of adult Afghan refugees engaged in various activities in support of disabled children

Community Volunteers - Afghan refugees trained by RBTU as grass root social workers. They are unpaid and volunteer their time to promote self-activities within the camps.

Community Participation - Important to both top-down and bottom-up programmes. Community treated as partners in development. Whilst in top-down outside control steers the "partnership" in bottom-up decision making lies on community consensus.

Dependency syndrome - Passive reliance on relief assistance

District Coordinators - Pakistani social workers trained by RBTU to promote community work in the refugee camps. Civil servants employed by CAR/SWC.

Islamic Khetmadgar - Pashtu for scout movement

Jirga - Tribal council responsible for community decision making

Malik - Political leader

Mullah - Religious leader; local priest

Social Welfare Committees - Voluntary association of Afghan refugees, which is an implementing body for community based activities in the refugee camps

Top-down - Chain of command. All activities are planned, started and controled from outside the community e.g. by government, international org., or by distant experts. The local leaders are usually persons in positions of authority and power.

GENERAL COMMENTS AND ANALYSIS OF CAMPS VISITED IN NWFP

These general comments are based on an overview of all training and activities within the camps visited which have been an outcome of the RBTU training. The administration within the camps, implementation channels and methodology is also reviewed together with their gender implications.

1. Composition & Functions of Camp Committees or Social Welfare Committees (SWCom) - There are separate SWComs for males and females within the camps. The existance of a structured male SWCom made up of 5-12 "important and influential" persons is the norm. The Mullah, the Malik, members from rich families within the camp and senior tribal representatives are always nominated as part of the male SWCom. Teachers, CVs, TBAs, academics etc. are also sometimes included. All political, administrative and social matters pertaining to the camp are first presented to and discussed by the male SWCom members. Decisions and solutions are arrived at collectively here.

The District Coordinators (DCs) and Community Volunteers (CVs) have to first obtain the sanction of the SWCom before introducing any activities at camp level for either men or women.

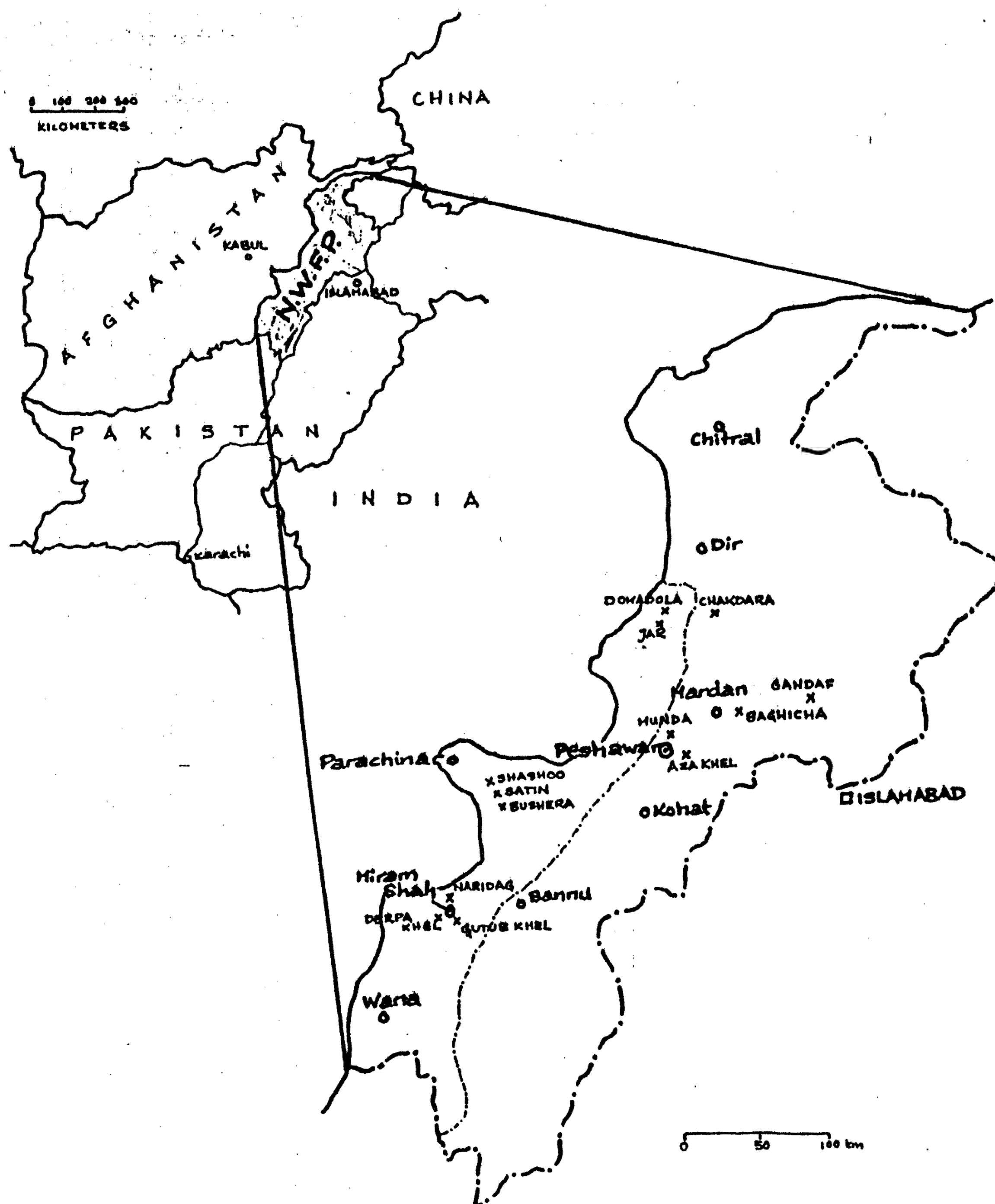
Women's SWComs are most often informal groups functioning under the tacit approval of the men's SWC. Membership is restricted to females from "influential families." Usually the nominated women are wives and daughters of the male SWCom members. This makes it easy for the DCs and CVs to gain access to and obtain the approval of the male SWCom through these females. Although these women do not always take part in project implementation they perform an important "decorative role". The majority of camps in the Northern area have such informal SWComs. In the Southern area however due to cultural constraints and location of camps in tribal areas starting female SWComs has been restricted until recently (1990) by the males. Formalised women's SWComs exist only in the camps around the Central Area. These camps are influenced by life in urban Peshawar and men's attitudes towards womens participation in projects is most liberal in comparison to other areas.

2. Coordination At Camp Level -

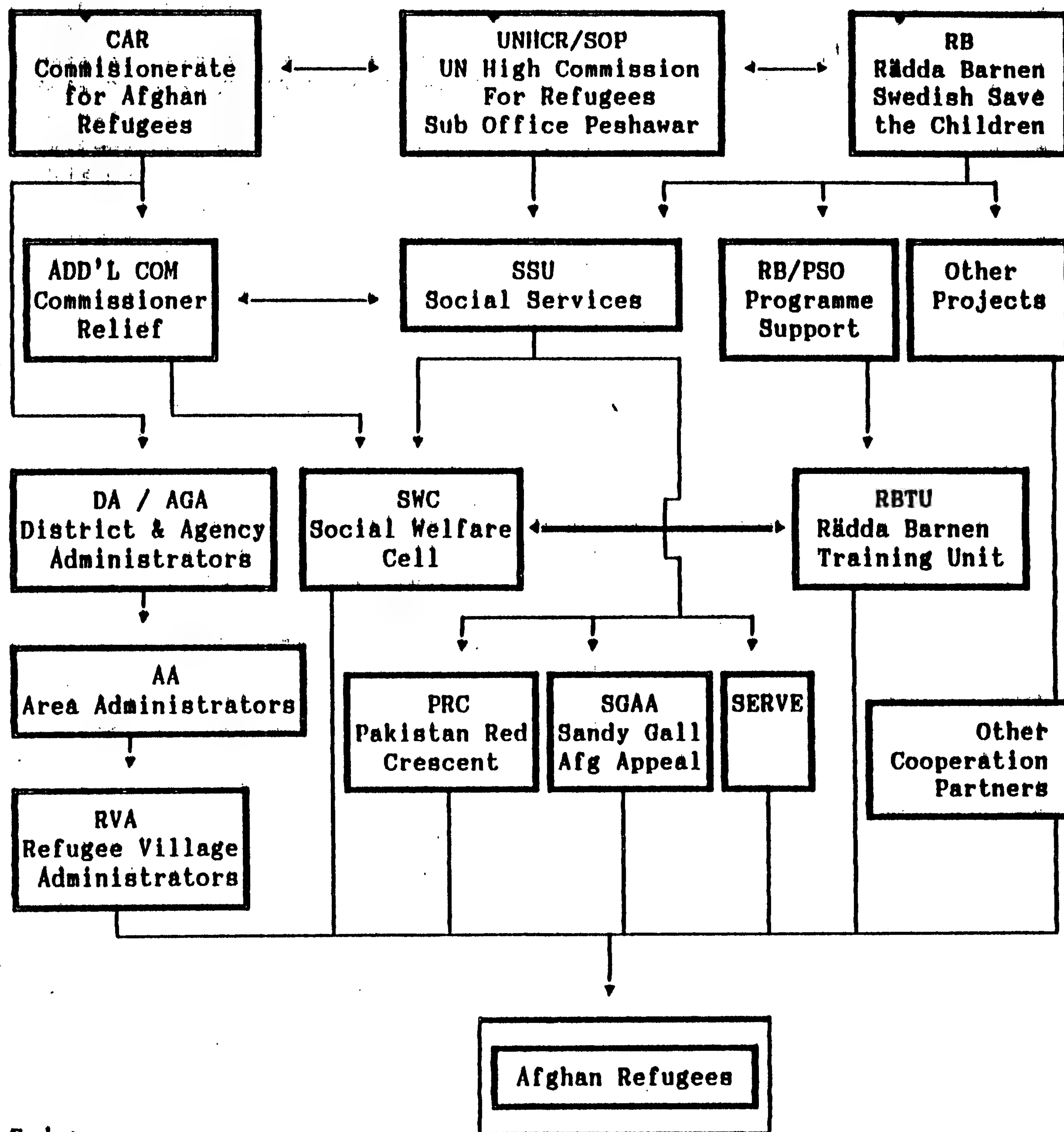
All social service activities at camp level are coordinated through CAR/SWC. Needs assessments and identification of vulnerable groups is the responsibility of the CVs in consultation with the SWCom in each camp. Necessary monitory inputs and training are provided by CAR/SWC. Coordination of CV activities, formulation of project proposals, monitoring and supervision of projects has been delegated to the districts. District Coordinators (DC) employed by CAR/SWC serve this function and act as channels for feed back.

There are 11 male and 9 female District Coordinators functioning today in NWFP. Two of the female DCs comprise the mobile team. They travel around assisting male DCs in districts where female DCs are absent or where the staff turn over is high, such as in the southern areas. Only two female DCs are resident and functioning in the tribal areas. While the male DCs prefer to allign themselves with the male SWCom's and are satisfied with "overall coordination", the female DCs work directly with project implementation

LOCATIONS OF THE CAMPS VISITED



Northern Camps	Southern Camps	Central Camps
Domadola	Shashoo	Munda
Jar	Satin	Aza Khel
Chakdara	Bushera	
Gandaf	Naridag	
Bagicha	Dherpa Khel	
	Qutub Khel	



Code:

- training
- cooperation
- staff secondment
- line of authority (or project monitoring)

Annex 5

TRAINING ACHEIVEMENTS OF R[illegible]TU FOR CAR/SWC:

TYPES OF TRAINING	NUMBER OF TRAINEES					
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	To June 93
District Coordinators	13	18	20	22	8	-
Community Volunteers		7	179	143	326	483
SW Committee Members		71	128	27	163	. 282
Animators				18		10

* GENDER DISAGGREGATED DATA WAS ONLY AVAILBALE FOR THE DISTRICT COORDINATOR TRAINING.

TYPE OF TRAINING	NUMBER OF TRAINEES									
	1988	1989		1990		1991		1992		1993
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M F
District Coordinators	Not Available	13	5	12	8	18	4	4	4	-

and have closer contact with the refugees. Mobilising resources at camp level and eliciting community participation are important aspects of the coordinator's work. RBTU training is utilised by CAR/SWC to strengthen the social service aspects and stimulate self-help activities.

3. Community Participation -

Camps close to urban areas tend to have a large population living outside the camp and coming into the camp only to collect their rations. In camps close to the border with Afghanistan a number of refugees are engaged in cross-border trade and farming. Motivation for collective work is difficult (men are away most of the time) and community action for self-support receives low priority in these camps. Camps in the North and Peshawar areas have received considerable donor support when compared to those in the tribal areas of the South which resist foreign influence and have not been easily accessible for donors.

Donors with their welfare projects over 14 years have created a "dependency syndrome" among the refugees . Community participation with no remuneration or incentives has little attraction under these circumstances. CVs who work without pay are the objects of redicule and mistrust in the North. Female CVs are specially vulnerable. They need motivation and discussion partners; neither the DCs nor RBTU is equipped to meet this need today.

Community participation after RBTU training has been sustained in the South despite the limited resources available among the refugees. Self-help activities without expecting remuneration were visible in all camps visited. While the male refugees have received little or no training the females have participated in at least 2 RBTU training programmes.

4. UN Convention On The Rights Of The Child -

The advocacy programmes on the rights of the child are centered primarily around children. They are reached through community leaders, school teachers, child group leaders and CVs. Motivation levels of parents, outreach to other families (other than disabled) and integration of child support programmes with other social services and NGO activities within the camp are poor.

CVs and DCs need follow up training on how to inter link and sustain children's activities. No attempts have been made upto now by them to draw in the camp committees nor the fathers actively to advocate for the convention. RBTU seminars on the Convention have been concentrated exclusively to the mothers, there has been no parental training for fathers.

Among the refugees the Convention can only be used in training programmes in so far as it can be interpreted and explained through the teachings of the Quran. All clauses infringing on cultural norms and traditions and not accepted by the Mullah, the Malik and the elders of the camp have to be excluded. Children's rights are accepted by **parents only if they do not infringe on obedience to parents and elders.**
Further, children's rights have to be balanced with social obligations towards the family eg. children could go to school but they also had to work in the evenings to support the family.

Illiterate refugees in the camps have not heard about the UN or the Conventions of the Child but work practically in promoting projects for children. Programmes such as Islami Khetmadgar, disabled childrens groups, child clubs, self-help schools, child to child, and literacy centres have promoted awareness among children of improving their own lives. It has also promoted awareness and tolerance among the "abled" of disabled children. However there is room for further stimulance and increased adult support for these children with special needs.

5. Self-help & Self-reliance -

In the "overfunded camps" of the central and northern areas motivation levels for self-help and self-reliance are low. As one male SWCom in the north said:-
"we have trained a CV, identified 5 disabled children and given them a room to meet. This is our self-help. RBTU asked us to start this, but we have received no payment for our work". This must be contrasted with the "poorer" south where the SWCom said " families pay Rs. 20 each monthly to meet the salary of the teacher in the self-help school": "the men collect money after Friday prayers if anyone is seriously ill and needs special medical care".
Thus varied interpretations have been given to these concepts depending on how much the "dependency syndrome" has affected peoples thinking.

6. Animators -

A large proportion of the activities initiated after RBTU training among children and SWComs in the South have been sustained due to the presence of Animators. The male SWComs were aware of female needs and were flexible to female training due to interventions by the Animators. The termination of training and remuneration to the Animators by RBTU in April 1992 could affect sustainability of activities in the Southern tribal areas.

The recently started Urban Animator training for fresh arrivals in Peshawar has in contrast been planned by UNHCR/SSU, CAR/SWC and RBTU jointly. Its sustainability has been ensured through Norwegian funding.

7. Gender Relations -

Both men and women within the camps are for the most illiterate except for a few teachers, doctors and graduates (men) who are employed with the BHU and the schools within the camps. A few female teachers are forthcoming in the schools around Peshawar and Mardan.

The men's SWCom is the deciding body over all social activities within the camp. The women's SWCom, training programmes and identification of beneficiaries are the responsibility of the men. The types of RBTU training necessary for the women and how far these women can participate in action programmes are determined by the men, all in accordance with prevailing cultural norms.

There are fewer tribal restrictions to women educating other women in the poorer camps of the South. However in the North there was little evidence of inter-tribal exchanges amongst the women. A better socio-economic status here had led to further seclusion of women behind the 'purdah'.

Child-to-child groups are mostly lead by female CVs while most of the disabled children's groups are lead by male CVs. Child-to-child activities call for closer interaction with families at household level and the women seemed to manage this better.

It was easier to gain an analysis of camp activities from the female SWCom who were less status conscious than the male SWCom. The women projected activities both for boys and girls, their advantages and drawbacks. All females participated openly in discussions irrespective of class standing. The male SWComs had the tendency to project only activities for boys if not closely questioned and it was only the influential voices that were heard. At meetings with us they tended to project only their achievements because they were status conscious and wanted to preserve their image. One could only meet them formally in the 'hujra' (visitors meeting salon in the camp) but never in their private homes.

Collective discussion outside their immediate households and tribes is new to the refugee women; as is the creation of SWComs. The women can now collectively address their minds to female problems and make representations to the male SWCom. These administrative and political roles within the community are a natural part of men's lives but this is a new role for women in their lives as refugees. Women had less prestige and tribal obligations and could talk freely and dissiminate lessons from their training better between themselves than the men. Men, specially in the South, saw their trained women as motivators and advocates of change among other female communities in surrounding camps.

The educational needs of boys has been the prime consideration of all the camps and CAR/SWC. Education of girls has received "some" priority only in the Peshawar camps (20 girls schools to 68 boys). Among the 28 camps in the North there are only 25 girls schools as against 133 for boys. In the South among 43 camps there are only 4 girls schools as against 118 for boys.

9. Salient differences between the Northern and Southern camps -

1. Refugees in camps in the South had the ability to link themselves across tribes and work together despite their limited resources. The male SWCom actively encouraged this move. Special mention must be made of income generation, common water problems in the camp, self-help schools, collecting money through mosque for sick women. In the North people tended to be individualistic and waited for external support. The SWComs were also passive.

2. Children were immunised in nearly all the camp either through the BHU or mobile health teams.

   Whilst the practice of brestfeeding was most common in the South, powdered milk had caught on in the North: using powdered milk was considered to denote upward mobility and thereby was a status symbol for refugee families. In the remote Southern tribal areas powdered milk advertisements were rare and healthy traditions of MCH were still maintained unlike in the North.

3. The limited opportunities for training are appreciated, valued and practiced in the South. Community action and social mobilisation is stronger in the South and people have been forced to generate their own resources. Women were much

more vocal in the South and practiced what they had learned through RBTU training. In the Northern camps and Peshawar donors had destroyed peoples innitiatives and created dependency.

4. The tendency in all camps was for women to bring their problems first to the male SWCom through a close relative. The males took it up with the DC. While internal solutions were the first resort in the South, the North opted to search for external funding as a first measure.

5. Motivation to work with disabled children is stronger in the South. CVs work closely with parents in project implementation. Motivation has resulted in parents bringing their children to the children's group rather than the teacher having to personally collect them daily. False accusations against CVs fraudulently collecting money at the expense of disabled children has also stopped.

6. There was no theoretical understanding of the UN convention but practical measures like child to child programmes, child groups, and IK are ensuring equal rights to all children. Upto now parental training has been directed solely towards mothers. Training for fathers has yet to be introduced. General support for childrens programmes however exists among fathers and mothers.

7. Animators have been of immense importance in sustaining programmes in the Southern camps. They have been vital links between DCs and camp level actiivities. Re-introduction of them could be of immense importance especially for female DCs in the South. The Northern districts have often both male and female DCs working together.

8. Self-help, participation and sustainability were concepts better understood and practiced by communities in the South than in the northern camps. There was less motivation for peoples action in the North.

9. There was better coordination between projects at camp level in the South. In the North and Peshawar areas there were too many projects, too many NGOs and no coordination or interlinks at camp level. NGOs worked in isolation. Sometimes the same refugees were reached by all NGOs.

   Incentives offered within training programmes (UNDCP, ARC, NPO etc.) have been the motive for refugees attending training specially in the North and Peshawar. RBTU training with no incentives has been difficult to sustain in these areas given the existing circumstance.

10. Repatriation from Southern camps is on a higher level than in the North. In the South anyone who can restart agricultural activities is leaving because of the poverty level within the camp. Camps are situated on lands belonging to Pakistani Maliks who control the camp and demand payments of Rs. 3000 for a ration distribution centre and Rs. 5 from each family when collecting rations. The Maliks enjoy good contacts with the Agency Administration and are politically important. In the northern areas people are less dependant on the Malik for food and security and enjoy residence on government lands.

IMPRESSIONS FROM FIELD VISITS

Introduction:

A total of 11 selected camps in the North, South and Central Areas was visited. The camps were selected in consultation with CAR/SWC and UNHCR/SSP on the basis of a) most active camps - where activities and training is under implementation and staff male and female are active within the programme b) inactive camps - no CVs, no activities, passive participation c) camps without female representation - absence of female DCs, CVs, female camp committees, resourceful local women, and projects addressing women's needs d) remote camps - camps receiving limited support from Government and no support from NGO channels e) very old camps - existing since 1979/80: majority of families repatriated.

The camps visited have been regionally divided as follows:-

Chakdara, Bagicha & Gandaf = Northern Area Camps
Bushera, Satin, Shashoo, Qutub Khel, Derpa Khel, Naridag = Southern Area Camps
Azakheel, Munda = Central Area Camps (Peshawar).

(see annex .3.... for map on camp locations)

Purpose And Methodology:

The purpose of the field visits was to assertain the impact of RBTU training at camp level. Special attention was paid to the following aspects

- quality of the training received and work initiated by the community workers i.e. DCs, Animators, CVs, Child Group Leaders and SWComs

- success and drawbacks faced by the community workers after training together with future training needs identified

- methodologies used in the field by community workers to adapt the training to the social conditions within the camps.

- Impact of the training on gender integration and increased womens' participation

- use of the UN Convention on The Rights of The Child.

Information was gathered and impressions formed through camp level observations, personal interviews at administrative and family level and interaction with other NGO training programmes for vulnerable groups.

MUNDA CAMP - PESHAWAR 1

BACKGROUND:

This camp, situated on the borders of Momand Agency (tribal area) is one of the oldest around Peshawar and was started in 1980. Munda is made up of 7 camps with 36 000 families mostly from the Nangarhar, Konar and Kunduz Provinces of Afghanistan. Most of the families had been engaged in agriculture before displacement. Hence drug abuse and trade in illegal weapons was a growing problem at Munda. Today about 70% of the refugees have been repatriated to Afghanistan and about 20% have integrated themselves with the local village population or live in Peshawar. The 2 000 families left over today have been amalgamated into 2 camps. The majority of those left behind belong to the nomad tribes (Kochis).

ACTIVITIES:

The 7 camps in Munda have been most active upto 1992. 40 female CVs received RBTU training in 1991, a further 30 underwent training in 1993. 11 male CVs have also been trained by RBTU in 1988. 3 male camp committees and one female camp committee were set up. Members were appointed from the 6 tribes represented in the camp. Activities started by the CVs included five child to child groups, Islami Khetmadgar (3 male & 1 female group), 2 disabled childrens' groups with 20 children. Informal schools for girls and 2 adult literacy groups among the females was also started, besides 9 literacy groups for males in 1992. 20 female volonteers also underwent UNDCP training and an extensive awareness campaign against drug abuse was implemented. Some CVs have undergone training with several NGOs on specific issues. A plant nursery project for men and women had also been started, producing plants for the NWFP reforestation programmes.

Close monitoring and interaction by the experienced male and female district coordinators have contributed towards sustaining all activities until repatriation began in 1992.

OBSERVATIONS:

Today implementation of activities have been terminated (except for the Union Aid hospital which is still operating) after the refugees opted to return to home. The trained Cvs have also returned and started activities inside Afganistan on similar lines as those they had implemented within the camps. Three of the male CVs are presently members of the Afghan Association working with children inside Afganistan. Exchanges of experiences between the CVs working within Afghanistan and the district coordinators continues.

The male and female DCs had received 1 1/2 years RBTU training in 1990 and worked together with experience. The female DC has been the initiator, driving force and guide in the field.

The DCs did not feel that the use of the UN Convention was necessary or culturally practical as a tool to increase awareness on the rights of the child among the refugees. They saw the Convention as a tool from the "superior" West, aimed at superimposing its own views on upbringing of children, on the "inferior" developing world. As long as the Quran, the Mullah and the Malik agree that children have rights and parents responsibilities then everyone will anyway perform their duties and obligations, was their opinion based on working experience.

AZAKHEEL CAMP - PESHAWAR 2

BACKGROUND:

There were 929 families with 5 698 registered persons in the camp. The camp was made up of 4 units. There were also a number of unregistered familes. The refugees were fresh arrivals and hailed from Konar Province. The men had been serving in the lower ranks of the administration, police and the military in Kabul where they had been residing. A number of female refugees were teachers.

Rations were the incentive for most families to live in the camp. Due to the proximity to Peshawar job opportunities were available to the male refugees and a number of families had opted to live in the city, engage themselves in private business and visited the camps only to collect their provisions. Factional conflicts within the camp had also forced some families to live outside.

ACTIVITIES:

The male SWCom was made up of 12 members of which 2-3 were active. Their main function was to identify and refer problems to the DC and various NGOs for support. They preferred not to talk about the womens committee within the camp and its income generation activities. The males attempted to project their women as destitutes. House visits and interviews with the women proved otherwise. There existed a Women's SWCom consisting of an informal group of 7 members choosen from "respected" families within the camp and identified through the men's committee. Ocklenden Venture had an embroidery project for 50 women in 3 groups, NPO and SOS PG had carpet weaving production among 20 women, a functional BHU funded by Pakistan Relief and Saudi Aid were ongoing activities funded by NGOs for women and children. These projects enabled women to receive a supplementary income for the family and curative health care for their children free of charge within the camp.

All the womens' activities had been initiated by the female District Coordinator after receiving RBTU training in 1992 CAR had mediated the donor funding. Education of females was received positively by the men since the camp was urban and influenced by life in Peshawar.

A CASE STUDY OF SELECTED AFGHAN REFUGEE CAMPS IN THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE, PAKISTAN

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Consultant

REPORT PREPARED FOR RÄDDA BARNEN
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